



Customer No.: 58633

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nelson et al

Docket No.: 9473.18472

Serial No.: 10/718,254

Examiner: Kiandra Charle Lewis

Filed: 20 November 2003

Group Art Unit: 3743

Title: Devices, Systems, and Methods to Fixate Tissue Within the Regions of the Body,  
Such as the Pharyngeal Conduit

**AMENDMENT A**  
**AND**  
**RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed September 25, 2006, for which a shortened one month response period was set.

An automatic five month extension of time to respond, up to and including March 25, 2007, is respectfully requested.

Please amend the application as follows: